

SCORNE.

NITRO-GLYCERINE FOR BLASTING.—The sum total on the Pacific Railroad has just been completed. The work was expedited about one per cent faster than it could have been had not nitro-glycerine been made at the spot and substituted for gunpowder.

RED LEAD.—Barton produces red lead by heating the oxide of lead to redness with a mixture of soda, or by heating the same temperature a mixture of 1,024 by weight of lime and parts of carbonate of soda, parts of sulphate of lead, and parts of carbonate of soda, and 173 parts of nitrate of soda. The resulting mass is then heated and substituted for gunpowder.

TO CLARIFY TURBID WATER.—Turbid water, made turbid by sand or earthy substances, is rendered clear to drink in from seven to fifteen minutes, if to each liter there be added 4-6ths of a gramme of finely powdered alum, or three-quarters of a pound to every ton of water, alum being taken agitate the liquid when the alum is introduced.

DOUBLE SESQUICHLORIDE OF IRON AND SODA.—F. Landauer has made it a new compound by the action of hydrochloric acid on artificial nitro-nitramine. By writing into paper with the solution and afterward washing it, the letters become black, just as in the case of some sympathetic inks, but the writing does not disappear by the action of water.

MOLTING OF FISHES.—M. Bandetot, in a paper read before the French Academy of Sciences, says tubercles are often observed on the sides of fishes, sometimes by the fading off of the scales which were sometimes of no species of fish.

They are, however, periochical, and found only at certain seasons of the year, thus constituting a true molting.

Poisoning by PHOSPHORUS.—M. Dybkowsky, a recent member, states that the poisonous action of phosphorus is entirely due to the formation of phosphated hydrogen gas, which, in passing into the blood, rapidly combines with the oxygen present. Hence concludes that death from phosphorus is nearly equivalent to death by asphyxia.

ANTI-INFLUENZA SOLUTION.—To prevent the deposit of extremely adhesive sediments in a condenser, mix 15 kilograms of chlorinated chloride of barium, mix 15 kilograms of chlorinated chloride of barium dissolved in 30 of water, with 25 kilograms of hydrochloric acid, having a specific gravity of 1.03; apply 15 parts by measure of this acid solution to every 1,000 parts of water to be used in the boiler.

ANALYSIS OF BLISTER STEEL.—David Forbes, F. R. S., has communicated to the *Chemist and Druggist* the results of his analysis of a number of older steels, which will be excitingly interesting because analyses of such steels are rare and seldom found in chemical works. The per cent results are as follows: Iron, 99.16; carbon, 0.67; graphite carbon, 0.02; manganese, 0.02; silicon, 0.02; phosphorus, 0.02. No trace of phosphorus was detected.

The author's method was made for it by several different methods.

Fossil Ivory.—It is said that the tasks of at least 100 men are required to strip 100 m. of ivory, and that it is not worth the trouble to do so.

Notwithstanding the large amount carried away, the supply does not seem to diminish. These remains are scattered along the valleys and near the mouths of great rivers; and in many cases they are found in the same state in which they were discovered, with its skin protected by a double covering of hair and wool, and its flesh in such state of preservation as to afford food for dogs and wild beasts. Whatever the cause of the separation of the remains, it is evident that they were never entombed in ice, which has not been disturbed since they were first entombed.

GAS FROM COFFEE.—M. Babinet has reported to the French Academy the following information with regard to the evolution of gas during the process of making coffee. If finely ground coffee be steeped in cold water, gas will be evolved, an amount equal to 1/1000 of the weight of coffee used; and this gas will take up very rapidly, insomuch that if a bottle be half filled with coffee duly ground, and the remaining space then filled with water until the cork is reached, an explosion will ensue, insomuch as force to expel the cork, or even break the bottle.

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New Publications.

WALLING'S ROUTE GUIDES.—Walling's New York City Guide, Walling's Hudson River Guide, Walling's New York Central R. R. Guide, Walling's Erie Railway Guide, Walling's New York to Boston Springfield Route, Walling's New York to Boston Shore Line Route, Walling's Long Island Sound Guide, Walling's New York to Washington Guide, Walling's Harlem River Guide, Walling's Connecticut River Guide, Walling's Allentown Route Guide, Walling's Pennsylvania Coal Regions (via Morris and Essex R. R.)

The guides describe all Cities, Towns, and Stations on their respective routes.

ATTRACTION SPOTS AND POPULAR RESORTS are particularly well described.

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